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German Democratic Republic

FDD Abstract of [REDACTED]

REPORT ON THE MECKLENBURG MINISTRY FOR TRADE AND SUPPLY (12 pp; German; Date of [REDACTED])

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This document, which is stamped Vertraulich (Confidential), consists of a 12-page typewritten report on the Mecklenburg Ministry for Trade and Supply.

Section I of this report refers to a Laender conference called by the GDR Ministry for Trade and Supply in Berlin, 10 June 1952, to initiate preparations for arriving at the Retail Trade quota under the 1953 Economic Plan. The working methods outlined point to closer coordination than in the past between the Federal Ministry and the Laender Ministries, and, in turn, between the Laender Ministries and their subordinate organs. It is pointed out that private retail trade in food and beverages is to be further reduced and that HO (state-owned retail stores) sales in this line will be increased, while private trade in industrial goods is to show a slight rise compared with 1952; and that total planned retail sales for 1953 will probably exceed the 1952 total by 11%.

Section II deals with the development of retail trade under the 1952 Economic Plan for Mecklenburg. Attention is called to the fact that, with a planned total of 854 million DM, retail sales in Mecklenburg's HO stores during 1952 will exceed the planned sales total for private retail trade by 29 million DM, whereas in 1951 HO trade was considerably smaller by volume than private retail trade. The report also points out that the above figures do not give a true picture of the actual situation, since the figures given for HO trade cover gross sales, including excise taxes, and that, while the HO sales target exceeds the private sales quota, the actual turnover of goods by private trade for the current Plan year will be larger than that of the HO stores. It is stated that Inturist enterprises, such as hotels, have been discontinued in Mecklenburg. A copy of the (Secret/Control) approved 1952 Retail Trade Plan for Land Mecklenburg is referred to several times as an enclosure to subject report. However, it is not attached to document.

Section III, 9 pages, covers the structure and personnel of the Mecklenburg Ministry for Trade and Supply. A thumbnail sketch of leading staff members is given, including official title, political affiliation, personal background, personal characteristics, age, marital status, popularity with subordinates, ability, etc. Similar descriptions are included for officials of the Main Division for Control and Procurement in Schwerin, the Mecklenburg Ministry for Economy and Labor, and the Mecklenburg DNZ (German Trade Center), Food Division.

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